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# The Seven Things I'm Sorry For

by Lalako Kojima

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# THE SEVEN THINGS I'M SORRY FOR

tolako hoyo presents
小嶋ララ子

SATORU~
YOU'RE SERIOUSLY NOT GOING TO UNIVERSITY?
YEAH I'M GOING STRAIGHT TO WORK
I have to go tell the teacher
IT'S NO BIG DEAL.
I JUST WANT TO LIVE TOGETHER WITH TOORU.
Are your parents OK with it?
YOU'VE GOT SUCH A GOOD HEAD ON YOUR SHOULDERS, WHAT A WASTE
Him again
YOU SURE LIKE TOORU A LOT, DON'T YOU?
Tooru is my older twin
He's more precious to me than anyone

He hasn't left our house in five years.

It happened five years ago.
Now Tooru, introduce yourself.
That day our mother brought "friends" for him.
It was hard for him to make any friends at all, because of his stutter.
W- W- WANNA PLAY BASEBALL?
They never actually liked him, and they were paid to be his "friends" even from the beginning.
But Tooru always believed they were his real friends.
chuckle
WOAH...
HE STUTTERS!
WHAT'S THAT?
chuckle

One day, when they promised to meet
Tooru stood there in the rain, waiting
TOORU!
...TOORU
I'M HERE TO PICK YOU UP

I P-P-PROMISED
MY F-F-FRIENDS
B-B-BUT I
H-HAVE TO STAY,
IT'S GETTING DARK
YOU'LL CATCH A COLD LIKE THIS
HE
WET HIMSELF
LET'S GO BACK HOME
YOU NEED TO CHANGE YOUR CLOTHES
B- BUT
S-S-SATORU...
THEY'RE NOT COMING.

THEY'RE NOT GOING TO COME
From that day on,
Tooru has never been able to leave the house.

Since then,
Our parents were so disappointed that they put him through strict discipline.
She painted over it again.
KUSUKI SHUUICHIROU
KAZUE
SATORU
I'M HOME, MOM
She ignores my existence.
Once I go up these stairs
It's only me and Tooru.
I'M HOME, TOORU.

WAH!
N- NO, I WASN-
SORRY, WERE YOU ASLEEP?
W- W- W-
WELCOME BACK...
hehehe
Y- YEAH
YOU'RE STILL THE SAME SCATTER-BRAIN AS EVER.
S-SATORU,
Y- Y- YOU SMELL LIKE THE SUN.
PAT
PAT
OH, I GUESS IT'S BECAUSE I WENT TO THE ROOFTOP FOR A NAP TODAY.
TOORU...
HUG
OUR HEIGHT DIFFER-ENCE IS GETTING SMALLER,
YOU NEED TO EAT BETTER, YOU KNOW.

Since then,
time hasn't passed for him.
YOU'LL SMELL LIKE ME IN A BIT TOO.
Ever since he became a hikkikomori, he's been very weak.
His ribs were always more visible than they should be, ever since he was young.
I took his thin hands into mine.
...BREATHE SLOWLY... OKAY?

Thrusting my inexperienced brother into a world of sexual pleasure

is like getting a sweet candy for a prize as a child

ARE YOU STILL LOSING WEIGHT, TOORU?
I W- W- WONDER...
YEAH.
I CAN SEE YOUR BONES THROUGH YOUR SKIN.
HAHA
HAHAHA
SO ENTER-TAINING...
trickle
trickle
...TOORU, LET'S GO OUTSIDE.
I'LL ALWAYS STAY WITH YOU, SO...

Inside of Tooru's mind, there are seven Gods,

and every night they come to punish him for seven things

I C-C- CAN'T.

First, for not being able to speak well

Second, for disappointing his parents

Third, for not waiting for his friends

Fourth, for letting those friends down

Fifth, for hiding indoors

Sixth, for having sex with his little brother
WHAT'S THE SEVENTH THING?
.....
I D-D-DON'T WANT TO T- TELL...
Tooru's empty back
Looked small, like a girl's
.....
COME OVER HERE, TOORU.
It seemed like he would disappear if I touched him

GUIDANCE COUNSELOR
-I SEE, SO NO MATTER WHAT,
YOU WON'T GO ON TO UNIVERSITY?
YES.
I WANT TO LEAVE MY HOUSE AND BE INDEPENDENT.
WELL IF YOU'RE THAT SET ON IT, ALL I CAN DO IS SUPPORT YOU
GOING STRAIGHT INTO SOCIETY IS TOUGH
SO WORK HARD!
YES SIR!

I heard from your teacher that you're going to work.
You're such a smart child, and your teacher was even recommending you for a national university...
Are you trying to ruin me too?
I'M HOME.
And you're going to live independently?
Are you telling me that you want me to live by myself with that little pest?
I have nothing to say to my mother.
I'm going to leave this house
ANYWAY, TOORU
YOU HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS.
IS GOING TO LIVE WITH ME.

WOW!
And release Tooru.
GREAT!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, TOORU!
!!
I wanted to say it, too
IT'S T-T-TASTY...
HAPPY B-B-BIRTHDAY TO YOU TOO, SATORU!
I'M R-R-REALLY HAPPY TO BE YOUR BROTHER.

TOORU,
WHEN I GRADUATE...
WILL YOU LEAVE THIS HOUSE WITH ME?
I WANT TO LIVE TOGETHER, JUST THE TWO OF US.
S-S-SORRY, I-I CAN'T...
WHAT'S BOTHERING YOU?
THE THINGS I'M SAYING...
WHAT ABOUT THEM BOTHERS YOU?

TELL ME, TOORU.
I'M H-H-HAPPY...
I'LL DEFINITELY MAKE YOU HAPPY.
If it's just the two of us,

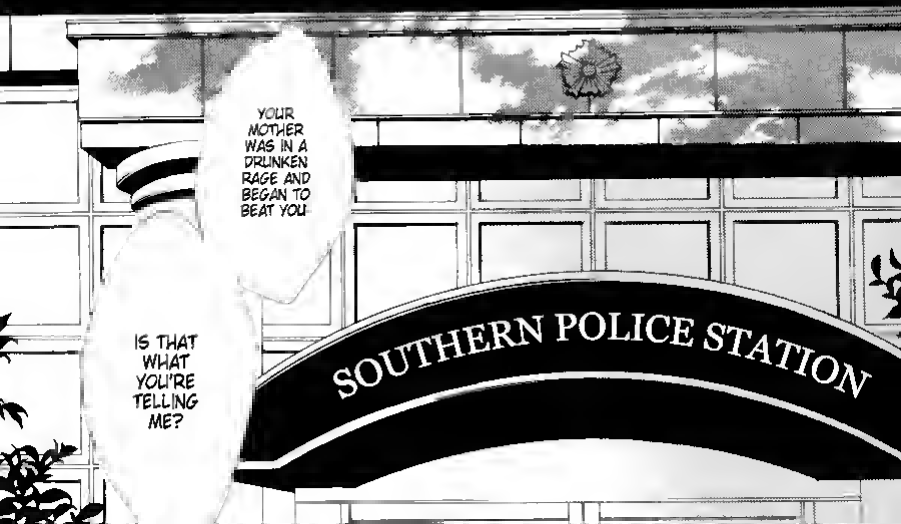
We can live a happy life together
LET'S SLEEP TOGETHER.
AFTER ALL, IT'S OUR BIRTHDAY
NO,
W-WE C-CAN'T!
I G-G-GRIND MY TEETH, IT'S REALLY E-E-EMBARR-ASSING.
I REALLY DON'T MIND.
I'M S-S-SORRY...
IT'S H-H-HARD FOR ME TO SLEEP WITH O-OTHERS.
YOU DON'T NEED TO APOLOGIZE.
GOOD NIGHT.

WHAT IS IT
THAT'S KEEPING HIM IN THIS HOUSE?
I'LL HAVE TO TALK TO HIM TOMORROW...
VOICES...?
COMING FROM TOORU'S ROOM?
...HUH?
WHAT'S HE DOING
AT THIS HOUR?
Is he having a nightmare?

S-S-SATORU WILL HEAR.
Shut up!
RATTLE
TOO-
STOP IT, MOM..
What..
I teach you every single night
yet you're still shitty at it!
Every time you open your mouth, you say the same thing...
that you want to leave!
Don't fuck with me!
RATTLE
-oi
what is she saying?

IT WON'T OPEN!?
If you ever set a foot outside
I'll never forgive you!
CREAK
CREAK
It's your fault!
CREAK
CREAK
DAMNIT... WHERE'S THE KEY...
TOORU!
It's your fault they look at me like that!
I even tried
TOORU
to help you make friends!
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
Do you even know what I had to go through?!
CLICK
Do you under-stand?!

I'M REALLY SORRY
MOM!
Note: in the Japanese «mom» can also be read as «god» the way it is written here
The seventh thing is...


YOUR MOTHER WAS IN A DRUNKEN RAGE AND BEGAN TO BEAT YOU.
IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE TELLING ME?
SOUTHERN POLICE STATION

IF YOUR MOTHER WAS BEATING YOU ON A REGULAR BASIS,
WHY DO YOU HAVE ALMOST NO BRUISES?
.....
NOT SAYING ANYTHING, HUH.
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO RESOLVE ANYTHING LIKE THIS.
IT'S FROM YOUR BROTHER.
tap
HE'S BEEN COMING HERE EVERY DAY TO SEE YOU SINCE.
"IT'S ALL MY FAULT, HE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG!" AND HE EVEN WENT AS FAR AS TO KNEEL.

YOUR MOTHER IS STILL UNCONSCIOUS.
FOR WHOSE SAKE DID YOU COMMIT THIS CRIME?
WE HAVE TO SEARCH FOR THE TRUTH AND PROCEED ACCORDING TO THE LAW.
HE ALWAYS COMES TO GIVE HIS TESTIMONY.
HE ALREADY TOLD US IN THE COURTROOM
WHAT YOUR MOTHER DID.
ALL FOR YOUR SAKE
"To Satoru,"

TO HIM, YOU MUST BE
A VERY, VERY PRECIOUS PERSON.
"When spring comes,"
"Let's go collect shellfish at the shore and see the cherry blossoms
"And let's go see fireworks at Teganuma in the summer.
"In the fall, let's go gather fallen leaves,
"And in the winter, let's hold hands and fall asleep together."

«I love you and

«I will wait forever for your return.»

●END●